

MARYLAND AGRI-FACTS



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QUARTERLY AG SURVEY

How many acres will be planted to corn? What will spring planting conditions mean for American agriculture? To gather reliable, objective information, the Maryland Agricultural Statistics Service (MASS) of the U.S. Department of Agriculture will be surveying farmers and ranchers for the June Agricultural Survey.

There is always speculation about each new crop season and agricultural producers are the main source for the facts. "If we speak up and answer the questions about the 2001 crop season, we can reduce uncertainty in the agriculture marketplace," says Hagner Mister, Secretary of Agriculture.

The Maryland Agricultural Statistics Service will be conducting the survey and a representative will contact local producers between May 30 and July 16. This survey is particularly vital because it will provide the first clear indications of the potential production of major commodities in 2001.

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The information gathered is widely used. Producers rely on the data to reach valid production, marketing, and investment decisions. Industry analysts, extension agents, and farm organizations use the information in a variety of ways that benefit farmers.

"We safeguard the confidentiality of all survey responses," Ray Garibay, State Statistician, says. "Information from individual operations is combined with other responses to provide the needed data." MASS works with farmers to provide meaningful, accurate, and objective statistics that help keep U.S. agriculture informed.

For a copy of the finished report or to obtain other agricultural statistics, visit the Maryland Agricultural Statistics Service website at www.usda.gov/nass/md or call 1-800-675-0295.

MD COUNTIES

BALTIMORE

Grayson Bowers

CECIL

Steve Westre

CAROLINE

Janice Russell

CHARLES

Robert Fastnaught

DORCHESTER

Janice Russell

FREDERICK

Jack Bozarth

Judy Koliopulos

GARRETT

Carolyn Ganoe

HARFORD

Jacqui England

HOWARD

J. Thomas Welch

KENT

Steve Westre

MONTGOMERY

Grayson Bowers

QUEEN ANNE'S

Steve Westre

ST. MARY'S

Robert Fastnaught

SOMERSET

Patsy Low

TALBOT

Barbara Edgar

WASHINGTON

Judy Koliopulos

WICOMICO

Jennie Evans

Patsy Low

WORCESTER

Patsy Low

DE COUNTIES

KENT

Charlie Overmiller

Connie Szeffler

SUSSEX

Jo Ann Anderson

June Brandenburg

Linda Sockrider

NEW CASTLE

Charlie Overmiller

CROP PRODUCTION

This Crop Production Report is the results of the May Agricultural Yield Survey. We wish to thank the producers who help to make this report possible.

Maryland Agricultural Statistics Service



The winter wheat crop in Maryland is expected to yield an average of 59 bushels per acre, based on May 1st conditions. This average yield, combined with harvested acreage of 180,000 acres, translates to an overall production level of 10,620,000 bushels, 16 percent lower than 2000. The average yield is forecasted at four bushels per acre less than last year's average of 63 bushels per acre. According to the Maryland Crop Progress and Condition Report, the condition of the winter wheat crop for the week ending April 29th was 27 percent excellent, 51 percent good, 14 percent fair, 7 percent poor, and 1 percent very poor. The cool weather experienced this spring has delayed winter wheat development. Consequently, virtually no winter wheat had headed by the end of

April, and as of May 6th, only 14 percent of the crop had headed, 23 percent less than last year at this time, and 14 percent behind the five year average.

U.S. winter wheat production is forecast at 1.34 billion bushels, down 14 percent from 2000 to the lowest level since 1978. All classes of winter wheat are down from the previous year. Based on May 1 conditions, the U.S. yield is forecast at 41.8 bushels per acre, 2.8 bushels less than last year. Grain area totals 32.1 million acres, down 8 percent from last season.

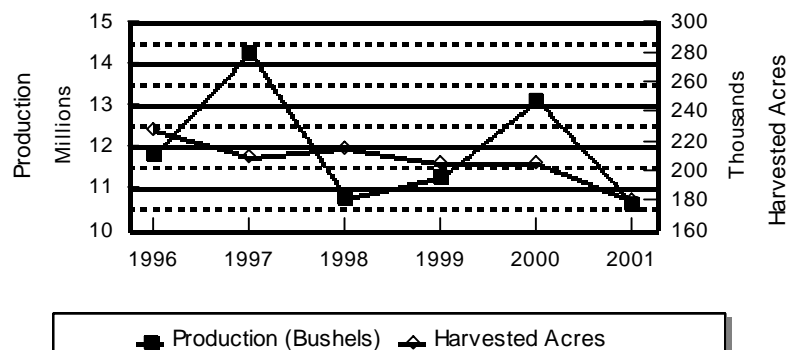
Winter Wheat Acreage and Production, MD, DE, and U.S., 2000-2001

	Harvested -----1,000-----		Average Yield (Bushels)		Production (1,000 Bushels)	
	2000	2001 ¹	2000	2001 ¹	2000	2001 ¹
Delaware	63	58	66.0	59.0	4,158	3,422
Maryland	200	180	63.0	59.0	12,600	10,620
United States	35,022	32,088	44.6	41.8	1,562,733	1,341,381

¹ Forecast

WINTER WHEAT

HARVESTED ACRES AND PRODUCTION, MARYLAND, 1996-2001



FARM LABOR

There were 1.02 million hired workers on the Nation's farms and ranches the week of April 8-14, 2001, down 4 percent from a year ago. There were 804,000 workers hired directly by farm operators. Agricultural service employees on farms and ranches made up the remaining 215,000 workers. Migrant workers accounted for 8.9 percent of the April hired workforce compared with 8.5 percent in April 2000. Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage rate of

\$8.31 per hour during the April 2001 survey week, up 22 cents from a year earlier. Field workers received an average of \$7.61 per hour, up 7 cents from last April. Livestock workers earned \$8.01 per hour compared with \$7.58 a year earlier. The Field and Livestock worker combined wage rate was up 16 cents from last year.

FARM LABOR: EMPLOYMENT AND WAGE RATES, UNITED STATES, APRIL 08-14, 2001, WITH COMPARISON ¹

FARM EMPLOYMENT	APRIL 09-15, 2000	JANUARY 07-13, 2001	APRIL 08-14, 2001
THOUSAND			
Hired Workers	840	* 691	804
Expected to be Employed			
150 Days or More	633	* 573	627
149 Days or Less	207	118	177
Agricultural Services			
Workers Working on Farms	217	* 165	215
Hired Farm & Service Workers	1,057	* 856	1,019
PERCENT			
Migrant Workers Percent of Hired Farm & Service Workers	8.5	* 9.6	8.9
HOURS PER WEEK			
Hours Worked Hired	40.4	* 37.3	40.2
DOLLARS PER HOUR			
Wage Rates for			
All Hired Workers ^{2 3}	8.09	* 8.66	8.31
Type of Worker			
Field & Livestock Combined	7.55	*7.87	7.71
Field	7.54	*7.76	7.61
Livestock	7.58	*8.07	8.01

* Revised.

¹ Excludes AK.

² Benefits, such as housing and meals, are provided some workers but the values are not included in the wage rates.

³ Excludes Agricultural Service Workers.

JUNE RELEASE CALENDAR

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
				1 Dairy Products Poultry Slaughter
4 Crop Progress	5	6 Broiler Hatchery	7	8
11 Crop Progress	12 Crop Production	13 Broiler Hatchery Turkey Hatchery	14	15 Milk Production
18 Crop Progress	19	20 Broiler Hatchery	21	22 Chickens& Eggs Livestock Slaughter
25 Crop Progress	26	27 Broiler Hatchery	28 Agricultural Prices	29 Acreage Grain Stocks Hogs and Pigs

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Home Page: <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>